

Detroit Arsenal, Michigan: Hazardous Materials Control Center

Detroit Arsenal, an Army Material Command installation in Warren, Michigan, is the headquarters of the Army's Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command. The primary missions at Detroit Arsenal are industrial production, research, development and engineering.

Detroit Arsenal implemented the Hazardous Substance Management System (HSMS) to control life-cycle management of hazardous materials. To facilitate this, it established a central storage and issue point for hazardous materials called the Hazardous Materials Control Center (HMCC), or HAZMART.

Detroit Arsenal personnel realized that a HAZMART and HSMS could reduce the learning curve for material procurement, issue, use and disposal. Customers received a biweekly newsletter during implementation to inform them of the progress and facilitate an exchange of ideas between program managers and those who would be most affected by the changes.

By implementing HSMS, Detroit Arsenal realized a \$215,000 cost avoidance shortly after reaching Initial Operational Capability (IOC). The HMCC dispensed about 33,000 gallons of fuel to various Michigan-based National Guard and Reserve units. It also issued approximately 8,500 gallons of other hazardous materials such as oils, solvents, paints and adhesives.

After one year of HAZMART operation, Detroit Arsenal has a comprehensive hazardous materials management and control amnesty collection program, through which 3,000 gallons of additional materials have been collected and sent to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office for reuse. In addition, the HAZMART operates a revenue-generating recycling program that includes pallets, cardboard and toner cartridges. Used wooden pallets are purchased and reused instead of collected for landfill disposal; the installation also bought a cardboard baler and established contracts with vendors to purchase spent toner cartridges.

Effective Program

Through HSMS, Detroit Arsenal has established an aggressive and highly effective pollution prevention program. This includes innovative management techniques and philosophies that have been incorporated into the installation's business practices.